



Atty Docket No. 003424.P008D

AF/2871
Patent #

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE
THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re Application of:) Examiner: T. R. Chowdhury
Jeffrey J. Jacobsen, et al.) Art Unit: 2871
Serial No. 09/932,505)
Filed: August 17, 2001)
For: Apparatuses And Methods)
For Flexible Displays)

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TRANSMITTAL COVER LETTER

Enclosed for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences is the Appeal Brief, in triplicate.

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666. A duplicate of this transmittal is enclosed for deposit account charging purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: January 13, 2003


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Patent

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APPELLANT'S BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.192

This is an appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the decision of the Examiner of Group 2871, mailed September 12, 2002, which rejected Claims 1, 4-9, 23-27, 43-52 and 55-62 in the above-identified application. This Appeal Brief is hereby submitted in triplicate pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.192(a).

A. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is the assignee of the full interest in the invention, Alien Technology Corporation, 18410 Butterfield Blvd., Morgan Hill, CA 95037.

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B. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

To the best of Appellant's knowledge, there are no appeals or interferences related to the present appeal that will directly affect, be directly affected by, or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the instant appeal.

C. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 4-9, 23-27, 43-52 and 55-62 are pending in the application and were finally rejected in an Office Action mailed September 12, 2002. Claims 1, 4-9, 23-27, 43-52 and 55-62 are the subject of this appeal. A copy of Claims 1, 4-9, 23-27, 43-52 and 55-62 as they stand on appeal are set forth in Appendix A.

In addition, Appellant is concurrently submitting an amendment after the final rejection. In this amendment, no change in subject matter has been made. The amendment is only to correct the number of the claim from which some of the dependent claims depend. The proposed amendment is submitted as an amendment after the final rejection by the submission of an amendment, which accompanies this appeal brief; the status of this request is unknown. Appendix B sets forth the pending claims in proposed amended form.

D. SUMMARY OF INVENTION

Appellant's claims are directed to various apparatuses and methods for creating a display.

In one embodiment, a flexible display device is disclosed. The flexible display device in comprises a flexible substrate and an active matrix display backplane coupled to the flexible

substrate wherein the active matrix display backplane comprises a plurality of different shaped blocks that are deposited onto the flexible substrate or a polarizing film. See for example, Claim 1, and Application, page 22, lines 9-12.

In another embodiment, the flexible display device in comprises a flexible substrate and a passive matrix display backplane coupled to the flexible substrate wherein the passive matrix display backplane comprises a plurality of different shaped blocks that are deposited onto the flexible substrate or a polarizing film. See for example, Claim 23, and Application, page 22, lines 9-12.

In another embodiment, the flexible display device in comprises a flexible substrate and a flexible reflective display coupling to the flexible substrate. See for example, Claim 55, and Application, page 19, line 18 to page 20, line 3.

In one embodiment, the flexible substrate is advanced through a web process apparatus. The plurality of different shaped blocks is deposited onto the flexible substrate wherein the blocks fall into recessed regions in the flexible substrate. See for example, Application, page 16, lines 1-9.

In another embodiment, a flexible continuous substrate is provided upon which multiple flexible display are fabricated. These displays are separated from one another as the flexible substrate is advanced through the web processing apparatus. See for example, Application, page 15, lines 5-12.

E. GROUPING OF CLAIMS

- I. Group I consists of Claims 1 and 409 that stand rejected on the grounds that they are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over admitted prior art and in view of U.S. Patent

- 5,453,864 to Yamada, et al. (herein after Yamada). Claims 1 and 4-9 stand or fall together. Claim 1 is a representative claim for Group I.
- II. Group II consists of Claims 23-27 that stand rejected on the grounds that they are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over admitted prior art and in view of Yamada. Claims 23-27 stand or fall together. Claim 23 is the representative claim for Group II.
- III. Group III consists of Claims 43-52 that stand rejected on the grounds that they are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over admitted prior art and in view of Yamada. Claims 43-52 stand or fall together. Claim 43 is the representative claim for Group III.
- IV. Group IV consists of Claims 55-62 that stand rejected on the grounds that they are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over admitted prior art and in view of Yamada. Claims 55-62 stand or fall together. Claim 55 is the representative claim for Group IV.

F. ISSUES

- I. Whether Claims 1 and 4-9 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over admitted prior art and view of Yamada.
- II. Whether Claims 23-27 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over admitted prior art and view of Yamada.
- III. Whether Claims 43-52 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over admitted prior art and view of Yamada.
- IV. Whether Claims 55-62 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over admitted prior art and view of Yamada.

G. ARGUMENTS

I. Claims 1 and 4-9 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over admitted prior art and in view of Yamada.

The subject matter of Claims 1 and 4-9 differs from the admitted prior art and Yamada at least in that these claims include a plurality of different shaped blocks and a flexible substrate whereas the prior art cited does not teach, suggest, or motivate such combination.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art and in view of Yamada. The Examiner stated that the admitted prior art differs from claim 1 in that the substrate in claim 1 is flexible. The Examiner also stated that Yamada teaches flexible substrate. The Examiner further erroneously stated that “using different shaped blocks is common and known in the art and to optimize device performance would have been obvious to use.”

Contrary to the Examiner’s error, the combination of the admitted prior art and Yamada could not teach, suggest, or even motivate the combination of a plurality of different shaped blocks being deposited in the substrate of a flexible display. The admitted prior art made no mention of the plurality of different shaped blocks. The Yamada reference pertains to a liquid crystal display element having flexible substrates. The Yamada reference made no mention of the plurality of different shaped blocks.

As neither Yamada nor the admitted prior art, teaches, suggests, or motivates depositing a plurality of different shaped blocks into a flexible substrate or the polarizing film to create a flexible display, the combination cannot be interpreted to disclose the claimed elements of Claim

1. It is not obvious to modify either reference to provide the missing element because neither reference discussed the plurality of different shaped blocks being deposited in the substrate of a flexible display.

In the Response submitted on August 9, 2002, Applicant respectfully traversed that using different shaped blocks is common and known in the art to optimize device performance as stated by the Examiner in his Office Action mailed May 5, 2002. Applicant again traverses the Examiner's conclusive statement that "using different shaped blocks is common and known in the art and to optimize device performance would have been obvious to use" as a basis for the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection in this Appeal Brief.

The law requires that an examiner "must show reasons that the skilled artisan, confronted with the same problems as the inventor and with no knowledge of the claimed invention, would select the elements from the cited prior art references for combination in the manner cited." (See *In re Rouffet*, 149 F. 3d 1350, 1359, 47 USPQ 2d 1453, 1459 (Fed. Cir. 1998) and also MPEP 2142 and 2145). The Examiner thus bears the burden of proving an obviousness type rejection based on findings of facts and not based on conclusive statements. (See *In re Dembiczak*, 175 F 3d. 994 (Fed. Cir. 1999)). Adequate findings of facts can come from several sources. *Id.* The motivation to combine reference must be found in the cited references themselves. *Id.*

Alternatively, the Examiner may establish that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the references with articulated findings of fact regarding: 1) the level of skill in the art, 2) the relationship between the fields of the cited art, and 3) the particular features of the prior art references that would motivate one of ordinary skill in Applicant's particular art would select elements disclosed in references from a wholly different field. *Id.*

The combination of the “flexible substrate” and “plurality of different shaped blocks” cannot be obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). First of all, there is no reason that the skilled artisan, confronted with the same problems as the Applicant and with no knowledge of the invention as claimed in Claim 1, would select to combine these elements since neither the admitted prior art nor Yamada disclose, suggest, teach, or motivate the use of different shape blocks. The motivation to combine cannot be found since both the admitted prior art and Yamada made no disclosure of different shaped blocks. Second of all, the Examiner’s statement “using different shaped blocks is common and known in the art and to optimize device performance would have been obvious to use” cannot be a finding of facts since it is not supported by any facts provided by the Examiner. And, third, without such finding of facts, the Examiner’s statement appears to be an impermissible hindsight reason to reject Claim 1 for obviousness.

Therefore, Claim 1 is patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the admitted prior art and in view of Yamada.

Claims 4-7, as they currently stand, depend from Claims 2. Claims 4-7 actually depend from Claim 1. Applicant concurrently submitted a Proposed Amendment to correct the claim from which Claims 4-7 depend. Thus, Claims 4-9 all depend from Claim 1 and are likewise patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the admitted prior art and in view of Yamada under the same argument as for Claim 1.

Therefore, Claims 4-9 are also patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the admitted prior art and in view of Yamada.

II. Claims 23-27 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over admitted prior art and in view of Yamada.

The subject matter of Claims 23-27 differs from the admitted prior art and Yamada at least in that these claims include a plurality of different shaped blocks and a flexible substrate whereas the prior art cited does not teach, suggest, or motivate such combination.

Claim 23 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over admitted prior art and in view of Yamada for the same reason that Claim 1 was rejected.

The Yamada reference only pertains to a flexible liquid crystal display cell and made no mention of coupling this flexible liquid crystal display cell to a flexible substrate that has a plurality of blocks deposited therein. Additionally, neither the Yamada reference, nor the admitted prior art, teaches the flexible substrate coupling to the passive display backplane and a plurality of blocks deposited in the flexible substrate, the combination cannot be interpreted to disclose the claimed element of Claim 23. It would not be obvious to modify either reference to provide the missing element because neither reference discussed the combination of a flexible substrate coupling to the passive display backplane and a plurality of blocks deposited in the flexible substrate as in Applicant's invention.

Additionally, in the event that the Amendment submitted concurrently with this Appeal Brief is entered, Claims 23-27 are also patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the admitted prior art and in view of Yamada. The discussion above for Claim 1 is applicable to Claim 23 and Claims 24-27 which depend from Claim 23. Specifically, as mentioned above, the combination of the admitted prior art and Yamada did not teach, suggest, or even motivate the combination of a plurality of different shaped blocks being deposited in the substrate of a flexible display. The

admitted prior art made no mention of the plurality of different shaped blocks. The Yamada reference pertains to a liquid crystal display element having flexible substrates. The Yamada reference made no mention of the plurality of different shaped blocks.

As neither Yamada nor the admitted prior art, teaches, suggests, or motivates depositing a plurality of different shaped blocks into a flexible substrate or the polarizing film to create a flexible display, the combination cannot be interpreted to disclose the claimed elements of Claims 23-27. It is not obvious to modify either reference to provide the missing element because neither reference discussed the plurality of different shaped blocks being deposited in the substrate of a flexible display.

Therefore, Claims 23-27 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the admitted prior art and in view of Yamada.

III. Claims 43-52 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over admitted prior art and in view of Yamada.

The subject matter of Claims 43-52 differs from the admitted prior art and Yamada at least in that these claims include a flexible substrate and a plurality of display device components coupled to the flexible substrate whereas the prior art cited does not teach, suggest, or motivate such combination.

Claim 43 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over admitted prior art and in view of Yamada. The Examiner stated that “forming plurality of display devices on a substrate is common and known in the art and thus would have been obvious to optimize device performance.”

As mentioned above, the law requires that an examiner “must show reasons that the skilled artisan, confronted with the same problems as the inventor and with no knowledge of the claimed invention, would select the elements from the cited prior art references for combination in the manner cited.” (See *In re Rouffet*, 149 F. 3d 1350, 1359, 47 USPQ 2d 1453, 1459 (Fed. Cir. 1998) and also MPEP 2142 and 2145). The Examiner thus bears the burden of proving an obviousness type rejection based on findings of facts and not based on conclusive statements. (See *In re Dembiczak*, 175 F 3d. 994 (Fed. Cir. 1999)). Alternatively, the Examiner may establish that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the references with articulated findings of fact regarding: 1) the level of skill in the art, 2) the relationship between the fields of the cited art, and 3) the particular features of the prior art references that would motivate one of ordinary skill in Applicant’s particular art would select elements disclosed in references from a wholly different field. *Id.*

The Examiner has done none of the above. The Examiner appears to use a hindsight reason for rejecting Claim 43.

The admitted prior art discloses rigid display and rigid substrate. The admitted prior art made no mention of a plurality of *display device components* being coupled to a flexible substrate as claimed in Applicant’s present invention as claimed in Claim 43.

Applicant further submits that the Examiner misunderstood the admitted prior art to have discussed a plurality of display device components. The Figures 1(a) to 1(d) discussed pertaining to the admitted prior art did not suggest, teach, or even hints at multiple display device components on the substrate. The figures show several blocks incorporated into a rigid substrate. There is no suggestion that this rigid substrate will form a plurality of display device components.

Claim 43 can be illustrated, for example, by Figures 10 and 11 of the Application. Claim 43 directs to a flexible substrate that is continuous and upon which, a plurality of display device components (e.g., active matrix display devices) can be formed. On the contrary, the admitted prior art only deals with a rigid substrate with a plurality of blocks to form one display.

Moreover, Yamada did not pertain to a flexible substrate that is continuous and upon which, a plurality of display device components (e.g., active matrix display devices) can be formed. Yamada only deals with a liquid crystal display cell that has flexible substrates. As neither the Yamada reference, nor the admitted prior art, teaches a flexible substrate having at least a first length; said flexible substrate having a second length; and a plurality of display device components coupled to said flexible substrate, each of said display device components is separated by at least a third length, the combination cannot be interpreted to disclose the claimed element. It would not be obvious to modify either reference to provide the missing element to provide Claim 43 because neither reference discussed the continuous flexible substrate with a plurality of different display device components.

The combination of the “flexible substrate” and “plurality of display device components” cannot be obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). First of all, there is no reason that the skilled artisan, confronted with the same problems as the Applicant and with no knowledge of the invention as claimed in Claim 43, would select to combine these elements since neither the admitted prior art nor Yamada disclose, suggest, teach, or motivate the use of a plurality of display device components on a flexible substrate. Second of all, the Examiner’s statement “forming plurality of display devices on a substrate is common and know in the art and thus would have been obvious to optimize device performance” cannot be a finding of facts since it is not supported by any facts provided by the Examiner. And, third, without such finding of facts,

the Examiner's statement appears to be an impermissible hindsight reason to reject Claim 43 for obviousness.

Therefore, Claim 43 is patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the admitted prior art and in view of Yamada.

Claims 44-52 depend from Claim 43 and are likewise patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the admitted prior art and in view of Yamada.

IV. Claims 55-62 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over admitted prior art and in view of Yamada.

The subject matter of Claims 55-62 differs from the admitted prior art and Yamada at least in that these claims include a flexible substrate and a flexible reflective display backplane coupled to the flexible substrate whereas the prior art cited does not teach, suggest, or motivate such combination.

The Examiner rejected Claim 55 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over admitted prior art and in view of Yamada.

With regard to claims 55 and 56, Applicant disagrees with the Examiner's rejection because the combination does not teach each and every element of the invention as claimed in claims 55. Applicant respectfully submits that the admitted prior art made no mention of a display device that comprises a flexible substrate and a flexible reflective display that is coupled to the flexible substrate. In contrary, Applicant mentioned that the admitted prior art only deals

with rigid substrate. The Yamada reference only pertains to a flexible liquid crystal display cell and made no mention coupling this flexible liquid crystal display cell to a flexible reflective substrate.

As neither the Yamada reference, nor the admitted prior art, teaches the flexible substrate coupling to the flexible reflective display backplane, the combination cannot be interpreted to disclose the claimed element of Claims 55. It would not be obvious to modify either reference to provide the missing element because neither reference discussed the combination of a flexible reflective display backplane and the flexible substrate. The mere fact that Yamada teaches flexible substrate for liquid crystal display and that the admitted prior teaches that a display panel can be transmissive or reflective does not make it obvious to combine a flexible substrate to a flexible reflective display backplane.

As mentioned above, the law requires that an examiner “must show reasons that the skilled artisan, confronted with the same problems as the inventor and with no knowledge of the claimed invention, would select the elements from the cited prior art references for combination in the manner cited.” (See *In re Rouffet*, 149 F. 3d 1350, 1359, 47 USPQ 2d 1453, 1459 (Fed. Cir. 1998) and also MPEP 2142 and 2145). The Examiner thus bears the burden of proving an obviousness type rejection based on findings of facts and not based on conclusive statements. (See *In re Dembiczak*, 175 F 3d. 994 (Fed. Cir. 1999)). Alternatively, the Examiner may establish that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the references with articulated findings of fact regarding: 1) the level of skill in the art, 2) the relationship between the fields of the cited art, and 3) the particular features of the prior art references that would motivate one of ordinary skill in Applicant’s particular art would select elements disclosed in references from a wholly different field. *Id.*

The Examiner has done none of the above. The Examiner appears to use a hindsight reason for rejecting Claim 55 since the admitted prior art and Yamada made no suggestion to combine and the Examiner has provided no fact findings for a motivation to combine the elements as Applicant has done in Claim 55.

Claims 56-62 depend from Claim 55 are as likewise not obvious for the same reasons.

Therefore, Claims 55-62 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the admitted prior art and in view of Yamada.

Additionally, in the event that the Amendment submitted concurrently with this Appeal Brief is entered, Claims 55 and 57-62 are also patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the admitted prior art and in view of Yamada.

The discussion above for Claim 1 is applicable to Claim 55 and Claims 57-65 which depend from Claim 55. Specifically, as mentioned above, the combination of the admitted prior art and Yamada did not teach, suggest, or even motivate the combination of a plurality of different shaped blocks being deposited in the substrate of a flexible display. The admitted prior art made no mention of the plurality of different shaped blocks. The Yamada reference pertains to a liquid crystal display element having flexible substrates. The Yamada reference made no mention of the plurality of different shaped blocks.

As neither Yamada nor the admitted prior art, teaches, suggests, or motivates depositing a plurality of different shaped blocks into a flexible substrate or the polarizing film to create a flexible display, the combination cannot be interpreted to disclose the claimed elements of Claims 55 and 57-62. It is not obvious to modify either reference to provide the missing element because neither reference discussed the plurality of different shaped blocks being deposited in the substrate of a flexible display.

Therefore, the proposed amended Claims 55 and 57-62 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the admitted prior art and in view of Yamada.

H. CONCLUSION

For the reasons discussed above, Appellant contends that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Appellant contends that the claims are patentable in light of the admitted prior art and in view of Yamada.

Therefore, Appellant respectfully prays for reversal of the Examiner's rejection.

Fee for Filing a Brief in Support of Appeal

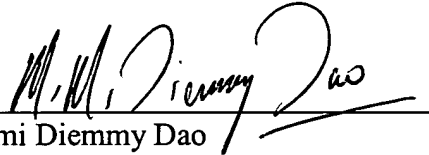
Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$320.00 to cover the fee for filing a brief in support of an appeal as required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(c) and 1.192(a).

Deposit Account Authorization

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Appellant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A

Pending claims as of the Examiner's decision mailed September 12, 2002

1. (Once amended) A flexible display device comprising:
a flexible substrate; and
an active matrix display backplane coupled to said substrate wherein said active matrix display backplane comprises a plurality of different shaped blocks that are deposited onto one of said flexible substrate and a polarizing film.
4. The flexible display device as in claim 2 wherein said display device conforms to a desired shape of an object which is planar when said flexible display device is attached to said object.
5. The flexible display device as in claim 2 wherein said display device conforms to a desired shape of an object which is non-planar when said flexible display device is attached to said object.
6. The flexible display device as in claim 2 wherein each of said blocks comprises an active circuit element which drives a picture element.
7. The flexible display device as in claim 2 further comprising:
a display generation substrate coupled to said active matrix backplane.
8. The flexible display device as in claim 1 wherein said active matrix backplane comprises at least one electrode for each picture element.

9. The flexible display device as in claim 1 wherein said active matrix display is conformal.

23. (Once Amended) A flexible display device comprising:
a flexible substrate;
a passive matrix display backplane coupled to said flexible substrate; and
said passive matrix display backplane comprises a plurality of blocks that are deposited onto said flexible substrate.

24. The flexible display device as in claim 23 wherein said display device conforms to a desired shape of an object which is planar when said flexible display device is attached to said object.

25. The flexible display device as in claim 23 wherein said display device conforms to a desired shape of an object which is non-planar when said flexible display device is attached to said object.

26. The flexible display device as in claim 23 wherein each of said blocks comprises a circuit element which drives a picture element.

27. The flexible display device as in claim 23 further comprising:
a display generation substrate coupled to said passive matrix backplane.

43. A plurality of display device components comprising:
a flexible substrate having at least a first length;
said flexible substrate having a second length; and
a plurality of display device components coupled to said flexible substrate, each of said display device components is separated by at least a third length.

44. The plurality of display device components as in claim 43 wherein each of said display device components is assembled into a separate display device.

45. The plurality of display device components as in claim 43 wherein each of said flexible display device components has a backplane comprising a plurality of shaped blocks which are deposited onto said flexible substrate.

46. The plurality of display device components as in claim 44 wherein said separate display device components conform to a desired shape of an object which is non-planar when said separate display device is attached to said object.

47. The plurality of display device components as in claim 45 wherein each of said shaped blocks comprises a circuit element which drives a picture element.

48. The plurality of display device components as in claim 44 wherein each of said display device components forms a separate display backplane and a display generation substrate is coupled to each said separate display backplane.

49. The display device as in claim 48 wherein each said separate display backplane comprises at least one electrode for each picture element.

50. The display device as in claim 48 wherein each said display separate display backplane is a passive matrix display backplane.

51. The display device as in claim 48 wherein each said display backplane is an active matrix display backplane.

52. The display device as in claim 43 wherein the second length of the substrate is continuous.

55. A display device comprising:
a flexible substrate; and
a flexible reflective display backplane coupled to said flexible substrate.

56. The display device as in claim 55 wherein said flexible reflective display backplane comprises a plurality of shaped blocks which are deposited onto said flexible substrate.

57. The display device as in claim 56 wherein said display device conforms to a desired shape of an object when said flexible display device is attached to said object.

58. The flexible display device as in claim 56 wherein each of said shaped blocks comprises a circuit element which drives a picture element.

59. The display device as in claim 56 further comprising:
a display generation substrate coupled to said flexible reflective display backplane.

60. The display device as in claim 55 wherein said flexible reflective display backplane comprises at least one electrode for each picture element.

61. The display device as in claim 55 wherein said display is conformal.

62. The display device as in claim 55 wherein said substrate has at least one recessed region, said recessed region is reflective.

APPENDIX B

Proposed amended claims submitted with this Appeal brief

1. (Once amended) A flexible display device comprising:
a flexible substrate; and
an active matrix display backplane coupled to said substrate wherein said active matrix display backplane comprises a plurality of different shaped blocks that are deposited onto one of said flexible substrate and a polarizing film.
4. The flexible display device as in claim [2] 1 wherein said display device conforms to a desired shape of an object which is planar when said flexible display device is attached to said object.
5. The flexible display device as in claim [2] 1 wherein said display device conforms to a desired shape of an object which is non-planar when said flexible display device is attached to said object.
6. The flexible display device as in claim [2] 1 wherein each of said blocks comprises an active circuit element which drives a picture element.
7. The flexible display device as in claim [2] 1 further comprising:
a display generation substrate coupled to said active matrix backplane.
8. The flexible display device as in claim 1 wherein said active matrix backplane comprises at least one electrode for each picture element.

9. The flexible display device as in claim 1 wherein said active matrix display is conformal.

23. (Twice Amended) A flexible display device comprising:
a flexible substrate;
a passive matrix display backplane coupled to said flexible substrate; and
said passive matrix display backplane comprises a plurality of different shaped blocks that are deposited onto said flexible substrate.

24. The flexible display device as in claim 23 wherein said display device conforms to a desired shape of an object which is planar when said flexible display device is attached to said object.

25. The flexible display device as in claim 23 wherein said display device conforms to a desired shape of an object which is non-planar when said flexible display device is attached to said object.

26. The flexible display device as in claim 23 wherein each of said blocks comprises a circuit element which drives a picture element.

27. The flexible display device as in claim 23 further comprising:
a display generation substrate coupled to said passive matrix backplane.

43. A plurality of display device components comprising:
a flexible substrate having at least a first length;
said flexible substrate having a second length; and
a plurality of display device components coupled to said flexible substrate, each of said display device components is separated by at least a third length.

44. The plurality of display device components as in claim 43 wherein each of said display device components is assembled into a separate display device.

45. The plurality of display device components as in claim 43 wherein each of said flexible display device components has a backplane comprising a plurality of shaped blocks which are deposited onto said flexible substrate.

46. The plurality of display device components as in claim 44 wherein said separate display device components conform to a desired shape of an object which is non-planar when said separate display device is attached to said object.

47. The plurality of display device components as in claim 45 wherein each of said shaped blocks comprises a circuit element which drives a picture element.

48. The plurality of display device components as in claim 44 wherein each of said display device components forms a separate display backplane and a display generation substrate is coupled to each said separate display backplane.

49. The display device as in claim 48 wherein each said separate display backplane comprises at least one electrode for each picture element.

50. The display device as in claim 48 wherein each said display separate display backplane is a passive matrix display backplane.

51. The display device as in claim 48 wherein each said display backplane is an active matrix display backplane.

52. The display device as in claim 43 wherein the second length of the substrate is continuous.

55. (Once Amended) A display device comprising:

a flexible substrate; and

a flexible reflective display backplane coupled to said flexible substrate wherein said flexible reflective display backplane comprises a plurality of shaped blocks which are deposited onto said flexible substrate.

56. Cancel.

57. (Once Amended) The display device as in claim 55 [56] wherein said display device conforms to a desired shape of an object when said flexible display device is attached to said object.

58. (Once Amended) The flexible display device as in claim 55 [56] wherein each of said shaped blocks comprises a circuit element which drives a picture element.

59. (Once Amended) The display device as in claim 55 [56] further comprising:
a display generation substrate coupled to said flexible reflective display backplane.

60. The display device as in claim 55 wherein said flexible reflective display backplane comprises at least one electrode for each picture element.

61. The display device as in claim 55 wherein said display is conformal.

62. The display device as in claim 55 wherein said substrate has at least one recessed region, said recessed region is reflective.